

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 INT-05 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 IO-10 /038 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:WBCOBB:VLV

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----- 036694

R 031949Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, WS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS AIRWAYS (SPIA)

PERMIT

REF: STATE 108736

1. IN VIEW SUDDEN DEATH OF PRIME MINISTER WESTERN SAMOA AND PRESUMED RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT ENARI, IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE, PARTICULARLY IN SO HIGHLY PERSONALIZED A GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE, THAT NO ACTION HAS YET BEEN TAKEN ON THE SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS AIRWAYS PERMIT. NEVERTHELESS USG DOES NOT WANT TO LOSE MOMENTUM FOR FAVORABLE ACTION WHICH SEEMED TO BE DEVELOPING FOLLOWING VISIT OF ECON COUNSELOR HARTWICK.

2. DEPT ACCORDINGLY AUTHORIZED EMBASSY INFORM GWS THAT USG WOULD NOT OBJECT IF SUITABLE PROTECTIVE PROVISIONS WERE INCORPORATED IN SPIA'S PERMIT. WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE CONFIRMATION THIS HAS BEEN DONE. IT WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING

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THAT WITH SUCH ASSURANCES FROM USG THE PRIME MINISTER'S

OFFICE WOULD ISSUE THE PERMIT IN A TIMELY MANNER.

3. EMBASSY IS AUTHORIZED AS APPROPRIATE TO EXPRESS TO
NEW PRIME MINISTER THE EXPECTATION OF THE USG THAT THE GWS
WILL BE ABLE ACCEPT THE DESIGNATION OF SPIA AND ISSUE

EXPEDITIOUSLY ITS OPERATING PERMIT WITH SUCH CONDITIONS
AS ARE CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE BY GWS. IF IT APPEARS THAT
NEW PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE IS TEMPORIZING, IT MAY BE
POINTED OUT THAT TO DELAY FURTHER COULD CALL INTO QUESTION
THE CONTINUED VALIDITY OF POLYNESIAN'S PERMIT, WHICH OF
COURSE WOULD NOT BE IN THE INTEREST OF EITHER SIDE. INGERSOLL

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